

For Immediate Release



## Fawzi Azar Award honors AUB architecture students

Beirut, Lebanon- 11/11/2011 - Two AUB students were honored recently with an annual award for outstanding achievement in the field of architecture.

Dana Mazraani and Mona Shaar, fourth year architecture students, shared a \$10,000 scholarship after winning the annual Fawzi Azar Architecture Award competition.

Mazraani and Shaar were among six students, including Ghaith Abi Ghanem, Raneem El Kheshen, Rani Kamel, and Nada Nuwayhed, who were nominated for the award. Ghaith received a Special Mention.

Present at the award ceremony were AUB President Peter Dorman and engineer Nabil Azar, head of Builders Design Consultants, who established the Fawzi Azar Award in 1997 in memory of his late father, a self-made man and a frequent donor to AUB.

Also present were Faculty of Engineering and Architecture (FEA) Dean Makram Suidan, Chair of the Department of Architecture and Design Howayda Al-Harithy, senior University and company executives, and faculty and students.

The Fawzi Azar Architecture Award is given annually to fourth-year architecture students and goes towards their fifth year tuition. Twenty-two students have received the award since its inception.

This year's candidates were evaluated by a jury panel consisting of Nabil Azar, Dolly Bridi, Mona Hallak, Marwan Zouein and George Arbid.

Architecture and Design Chair Howayda Al-Harithy described the award as the "most generous support of our students in the Department of Architecture and Design and a fantastic opportunity to promote and reward excellence."

Engineer Azar congratulated all participants before announcing plans to raise the annual prize to \$15,000.

Founder of Builders Design Consultants, engineer Nabil Azar graduated from the AUB school of engineering in 1970, receiving the Penrose Award for Architecture. Following study in Japan in 1972, he founded Builders Design Consultants in collaboration with FEA Dean Raymond Ghosn, operating in Saudi Arabia until 1990. He

has designed hospitals, schools, cultural facilities, places of worship and leisure facilities and has taught architecture at the Lebanese University. In 2002 he received a distinguished Alumni Award in recognition of "his innovative and extensive architectural designs in rebuilding downtown Beirut."

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Note to Editors

#### **About AUB**

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 600 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,000 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

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